THE CITY ON A HILL PRESS

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SLATER REPLIES

Early last week Charles Gilbert, business manager for the Santa Cruz campus telephoned the central offices of the Slater Food Service to inform them that there was serious discussion taking place concerning the possible cancellation of the Slater food contract.

Friday four supervisors from Slater Foods came down to Santa Cruz. Included in the four was James Gibney, regional operations manager and vice president of Slater. Gibney and the other three supervisors met with Gilbert, the senior preceptors from the three colleges, and students representing the individual college food committees. Gilbert then explained to Gibney that he, as well as others, had noticed a marked drop in food quality the past three weeks.

Gibney, first of all apologized for Slater foods. He stated further that if the food did not improve within thirty days he could personally cancel the contract within 24 hours notice. The University may at any time cancel the contract within thirty days notice. There is no thirty day option which once passed can not be invoked.

Gibney further went on to say that Slater is the largest food service in the United States serving 250 colleges. Unfortunately, commented Gibney, Slater did not recognize the unique problems serving a campus like Santa Cruz involved. We, mistakingly thought, said Gibney that we could get by with fewer per-

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Tonight, the American Conservatory Theatre brings Eugene O'Neills' "Long Day's Journey Into Night" to the Stevenson Dining Hall. The ACT, based in San Francisco is the largest and most successful repertory company in the United States. Unfortunately, the performance is sold out.

VIETNAM LETTER

CPL. CALLIBERNUS

There is a problem in that the majority of the American voting public doesn't know what war is - neither the immense boredom of the business nor the moments of living horror, and the murkey pits it leaves in a man's soul - the night we shot down a little girl or one of our own men or the pathetic gook dragging rotten bananas through a rice paddy. I think they fail to comprehend that war can never be civilized. And it's convenient when you can vote for a war without worrying about your son or brother or father getting murdered - it is a sort of quantitative state of mind that makes me sick. Perhaps if their own hometowns were put to the state of the present An Loo valley they'd be less inclined to vote for that mealy-mouthed sonofabitch.

I read about his blood purge in the LA Times which my mother sends me. And it brings to mind the police state America has become. One must admit that the police are corrupt. The Gestapo is a steriotype. One of the prime targets for police recruiting are soldiers returning from Vietnam - the door gunners on helicopters who extended over here because they like gunning down helpless human beings in rice paddies. I tell you I'd really relish the idea of a pitched battle with the goddamned police.

The riots at home. I can't decide what they mean - discontent, boredom, racism. If I believed in capital punishment I'd make looting a capitol crime. In my father's crude view if we don't bring the army

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CROWN GOV'T

BY SKIPPER LACAZE

Is Crown College a showcase of democracy or of immaturity? Is the "Interim Steering Committee of the Student Government of Crown College" a group of concerned students attempting to serve their fellows or a group of petty bureaucrats trying to make themselves look important?

Is Watsonville a world power on the order of Nationalist China and Milpitas?

These questions, and countless others of like gravity, were NOT answered at Wednesday's open meeting held in the Crown Dining Hall (the meeting was actually held in a "wing" the architect designated as the recreation area, but that hoke deserves its own story). Though Watsonville's status as a prospective member of the Security Council will not effect us greatly, the questions concerning student government will.

The meeting opened in a fumbling manner with the students attending feeling very hostile toward the Interim Steering Committee. The fumbling could be attributed to the chairman of the ISC and the meeting, Gaylan Harris, who, to combat the hostility, told those attending that anybody who felt he might commit some type of mischief might just as well leave. While it would have been nice if they had, asking them to did more harm than good and even somebody who only ran the Spring Gopher Festival in high school should have known this from experience. It can only be inferred that Mr. Harris was not politically prominent before coming here. This must also hold for the rest of the ISC if one uses their posted minutes to judge them. Here we have an unconstituted body setting up subcommittees "to write the Constitution of the Student Government of Crown College", and "to plan social and cultural affairs". Here we have a body with no official student body backing deciding "that the In-

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GENESIS

He knew from the very first minute that she would be ridiculously easy. And when he finally ended up in the right place at the right time, her clothes fell away from her like the autumn's leaves. He led her by the hand through the meadow, and had her, on a bed of pine needles, beneath the heliotic glare, neighing like a horse, shivering like a new born ape.

He went home that night, eyeless, and tried to scrub himself clean in the shower.

It had been much the same as the time he had allowed himself to be covered up with blood. The primitive animal rose up out of him, but when it was over he never, ever, felt purged. There was an amazement on his part that he could do such strange things to himself, that he was weak, without even as much strength of will as the blade of brown grass that yields beneath his heel.

The next morning he spoke directly into the mirror, and fondled the cigarette with an expression of distraction. (The succession of identical days, when nothing seems to change. He pressed his nose against his nose and looked into his darkened eyes.) She

TO PAGE 2

UCSC REP

Applications for the temporary representative from the Santa Cruz campus may be picked up today in all three College offices. The interim board feels that the selection of a temporary representative will offer an alternative to the student representative appointed by the Chancellor.

The board will accept all applications from those who have been at Santa Cruz for at least a year and will present one for ratification to the Colleges. This selection will not be for a permanent "student body representative," but rather will serve until the students have set up an inter-college governing body.

THE CITY ON A HILL PRESS

THE UNIVERSITY AND THE COMMUNITY

Santa Cruz was one of the thriving beach communities in California, but this is only from the end of June to Labor Day. For the rest of the year, Santa Cruz was a sleepy little community. But this has changed. Santa Cruz still is a beach community in the summer but, whether the local residents like it or not, during the winter this is a College Town. It may be a College Town with only a few collegians now, but in years to come there will be practically as many students at the University as there are permanent residents in the community.

Statistically this may be the case, but realistically the residents of Santa Cruz have failed to realize this. Most students are still treated as some sort of alien element when they venture into town. Some stores, instead of courting the students' dollar, prefer to snub the students and continue with their traditional trade. The merchants solicit the tourists' money in the summer; why not the students' in the winter?

Another instance of community hostility is the statement made by former Santa Cruz Mayor Norman Lezin, who told a member of last year's PRESS that the net effect of the University on the community had been a negative one, so far. Let us look at what the University has brought the community just in the last year: Shakespeare, Marat/Sade, Pinter, foreign films that would otherwise never get anywhere near Santa Cruz, Ali Akbar Khan, William Read, the Amadeus Quartet, and tonight, Long Day's Journey Into Night. This list is only partial and leaves out, perhaps, the most important: the prestige and pride of being the setting for the most widely publicized experiment in American education.

The PRESS isn't asking the town to disregard all the other considerations they face in their business and social lives merely to accept the University as a part of the

in their business and social lives, but merely to accept the University as a part of the community, in fact THE CENTRAL part of the community. . .for that, in a few years, is surely what it will be.



SLATER FROM PAGE 1

sonnel. Wehave found out, however, that this is not the case. Concerning the hiring of more UCSC personnel, Gibney replied that any UCSC student who is willing to work the same hours as a high school student will be hired immediately.

Another complaint rasied at the meeting concerned the treatment of some students who had attempted to communicate suggestions for improvment. One girlcommented that she felt that she had not been treated with respect. Gibney replied that under no circumstances could such an attitude be tolerated. Gibney again apologizing for Slater assured those assembled that this would not happen again.

In addition to the various complaints that were raised during the meeting, it was pointed out that ih spite of the complaints the relations between the Slater staff and the students was considerably better that last year's relations with the Saga company. Gibney replied that he was happy to hear this. The meeting closed with further apologies from Gibney on behalf of Slater and with a promise for immediate improvement.

The meeting was significant in that it showed a willingness on the part of Slater to listen and to accept the blame for any negligence. The students on the other hand must be willing to accept the sincerity of Slater in their attempts to improve food conditions , and must continue to criticize constructively. Any student who has a complaint or a suggestion should make an effort to see a member of the food committee within his collegee. Slate for its part has stated its willingness to consider new suggestions and to take the blame for mistakes. Its sincerity in trying to correct these mistakes should not be dismissed lightly by the UC community.

GENESIS FROM PAGE 1

wasn't the one and you knew it all along, but you did it anyway. How black must you paint yourself?" (And all the time he knew too that it was all so far away from any of the "moral perspectives" through which he had ever passed.) "If I could only return to those times beyond words." Gripping the cold iron bar, he lashed his bare back with heavy booted words. His eyes blurred.l

His eyes. He never was able to see beauty. Time tore him away from the one. They who had possessed him in the past let loose their grip, and he fell, plummetting, a breathless rock dropped from the heights of Olympus.

In his dreams her face became lost among the faces of Woman. All that would be sin fell away from her. He stood alone, struck dumb by his own obscure stupidity.

SOCIAL SCIENCE COLLOQUIUM

Last Monday, at the first social science colloquium for 1967-68, the featured guest was William Muir, Jr.. Dr. Muir has a J.D. and is a wall street lawyer as well as having a doctorate in political science. His published works include "Defending the Hill" and "Prayer in the Public Schools"--a study of law and public attitude changes.

The general topic for discussion was "Social Behavior and the Dynamics of Change." At the outset, Dr, Muir made some clarifications and definitions. For example, he resolved a question pertaining to the role of the political scientist, namely, "Can a researcher uncover what a good reporter hasn't?" According to Dr. Muir, the answer is based on how the information is used. The reporter relates what happens, while the political scientist who views the same material attempts to explain why other things did not happen. For example, while a reporter would explain why a school teacher complied with the Supreme Court decision on public prayer, a political scientist would attempt to explain why the teacher did not rebel against the decision.

Dr. Muir then discussed the methods for determining social change. In terms of charting judicial behavior or change, he stated two approaches that had been used. The first was a numbers approach, where points from judicial decisions were assigned quantitative values, and change could be measured on a numerical basis. Another method, the "impact method", was based more on field work --the interviewing of judges at certain instances in given amount of time--and was concerned with the impact of judicial decisions on society, and vice-versa.

In a question-and-answer period that followed Dr. Muir's prepared statements, the following points arose. The points that theories were too often oversimplified was brought up. Dr. Muir responded that although many times this was the case, theories really functioned as the tools which made more perceptive interrogation possible. As a result, although events forecasted by a certain theory may be erroneous, an appropriate question suggested by the theory could be asked, and necessary changes might be made. (e.g. if the prediction of a depression was based on a continuance of inadequate governmental apending, government spending could be increased and the depression avoided -- therefore though the theory was disproved, points of the theory suggested change.) As a side note, Dr. Muir suggested that good preparation for law school during the undergraduate years should include some attempted creative experience in a field in which one is interested, as well as some understanding of human activities in the field that one enjoys.

RABID FUGUE

WHITE RABBIT

Sweetly frothing forth from this rank pool of putrid prose comes a calling: Help me. My vision is shot and one of you have stolen my spectacles. I am blind and will remain slightly speechless until you who covet my gold-rimmed prescription grandfather glasses in the beige "Fortier" case return them to me. I will wait for the flapping Furies to drive you to leave them in Room 208 Beard House, with "no questions asked". God only knows your conscience is consuming your cool. I implore you who have sinned against the Lord's divine commandment to seek salvation while there is yet time. Unless you repent soon, the white-fanged Pixie pooh bear will swallow your soul whole. Support your local draft resistance and keep your head.

BRIDGE DEDICATION

The dedication of McLaughlin Bridge and the official opening of McLaughlin Drive on campus at 1 o'clock in the afternoon will mark the beginning of UDSC's annual public open house, "Back at the Ranch Day", Sunday, November 5.

Present for the ribbon cutting ceremonies will be Donald H. MCLaughlin, a former Regent of the University of California, for whom the new road and bridge are named. Participants will include UCSC Chancellor Dean E. McHenry and University officials.

McLaughlin Drive is the main cross-campus road, linking the East Peripheral Road on the east with Heller Drive on the west. It is located north of the present campus core area.

In December, 1965, the Regents of the University of California approved a Campus planning Committee recommendation that UCSC roads be named for former Regents who were instrumental in the selection and development of the UCSC site.

To date, campus roads have been named for former UC Regents Gerald H. Hagar, Edward H. Heller, and Jesse H. Steinhart.

The public is cordially invited to visit the UCSC campus, tour facilities and participate in a wide variety of special events planned for "Back to the Ranch Day", November 5, from 1 to 5 pm.

"the Knack"
sat. oct. 28
50¢
7:30 & 9:00 P.M.
nat. sci. 3

GRYPHON

A COLUMN BY JAMES GRAHAM

'Twas the night of the Cowell Assembly, and of six-hundred-plus mice, only thirty-five stirred---and what a jolly herd it was: disorganised, disinterested, and discouraging. Of course, the meeting could hardly have been expected to run well, since, in spirit, at least, the agenda was out of order, but still it was rather discouraging to note that the most impassioned discussion was on a question of whether or not the approval of five proposed members of the Hendeka should be postponed for another two weeks--because they were not present at the Assembly meeting.

Unfortunately, the members of the Cowell Assembly seem to be typical Americans in their governmental affairs--uninformed and uninterested. Supposedly we here at UCSC are intelligent, thinking individuals--but do we show it when we've got the chance? "Well...I just didn't feel like going; nothing ever happens anyway." Fie on this attitude! Whether or not anything ever happens, each member of the Cowell Community has the responsibility to exercise his right to participate in the Assembly. If nothing ever happens, it is not the fault of the thing that didn't happen--No! It's the fault of YOU, who didn't get out and make it happen.

Hopefully, when the College Affairs Committee is chosen next week at College Night, and when the other committees are fully staffed, then something may begin to happen. The real hope for the Cowell Community though, lies not in the committees and the governmental organization--it lies in the members of the Community, you, the individuals who think, have ideas, have suggestions and proposals. YOU must participate, voice your opinion, air your gripes, but most important, you must be ready and willing to plunge in and work to get things moving and keep them moving!

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CROWN

FROM PAGE 1

terim Steering Committee shall function as the budget committee". Though the members of the ISC may have had very good intentions, statements such as these will hardly tend to make the peasants adore them.

So much for the inexperience of the ISC. Now for the idiocy of the audience. When the meeting opened did a group of students ask for a reasonable explanation of the ridiculous bulletins? Sorry, Virginia. It seems as though some of the more thalamic protesters have become so used to not getting a fair hearing that they have lost all powers of reasoning and can only clap and stomp when one of their more intelligent members comes up with a stirring original slogan such as "simple government" or "none of this high school crap".

Finally everybody started apologizing to each other and after over an hour of foolishness the only action that could have been taken in the first place - the meeting of a constitutional committee - was agreed upon and the meeting broke up after announcements that another general meeting would be held sometime after yesterday's open constitutional meeting.

If the purpose of the meeting was to get some people thinking about student government and to organize the constitution committee, then it could be called a success. If, however, the ISChad hoped to preserve a small amount of respect for student government and the basic intelligence of college students, then we must agree that the meeting was a failure.

WORK STUDY

Are you eligible for a Work Study Job? A student committe, organized to explore the possibility of establi;hing an extra-mural job-study program on the Santa Cruz Campus, has been given permission to hire ONE work-study student to handle clerical work. The committee needs someone who is enthusiastic to develop this kind of an extra-mural program.

If you are eligible for work-study funds and would like to work with the committee, please contact Judy Tomash, Box 160 Stevenson, Ext. 77.

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PROJECTION: THE DRAFT

BY A. SCHERZ

The Anti-Draft Movement probes deep into our governmental system and raises several interesting questions about the nature of our system, the protest movement, and the conflict between the two. Can the protest movement achieve its objectives? If so, what changes will be imposed on our governmental system, and are those in the protest movement fully cognizant of the implications of the changes they seek?

The origins of the Draft Protest appear to be several, and intertwined. One source is a disagreement with the direction and manipulation of our foreign policy. Do we have a right to be involved in Viet Nam, particularly at our present level of escalation? What are we even doing in Asia in the first place? Is the Administration genuinely striving to resolve the conflict? Why are we killing people and being killed? Another source of protest is less lofty but equally, if not more, motivating, namely the desire not to get zapped. The combination of these feelings with the intransigency of government policy has created a condition of frustration and even fear among those opposing the war. The frustration stems from the static position of the government. The fear arises from the realization of the tremendous coercive power possessed by our "democratic" government. It is that power which sustains the war effort through compulsive military service, and is this coercion consistent with our ideals of "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness"? Certainly no one calls the VC "happiness."

A basic and necessary power of any sovereign state is the power of compulsion. This power is essential to the survival and regulation of the state. Is the Federal Government sovereign? According to accepted legal tradition dating back to Marshall, the National Government is sovereign, over the States. The Civil War settled that issue. However, to what degree is the National Government sovereign over the people? Reverting to Marshall, he claimed that sovereignty rested with the people, and that they gave sovereignty to the National Government. The question that this brings forth is: Can the people withdraw some of their sovereignty from the Federal Goverment? In this case, can the people deny the government conscription as a means of levying an army? Is conscription "necessary and proper" to levy an army? Cannot the people as well as the courts determine the intent and meaning of the Constitution? Eliminating conscription would limit but not end the compulsive power of the National Government. It would however, change the composition of our military establishment and our war-making capability, diminishing both for a while anyway. As I see it, that is the end sought in the Draft Protest.

Does the Anti-Draft Movement have the ability to succeed? Assume a sustained, national boycott of the Draft, perhaps 75% effective, and the result would be obviously a lot of people in jail. But for how many people is there space in jail? Facing such massive resistance, the Federal Goverment would have to change, probably by either elections or institutional change or both. Perhaps the resultant turmoil of the resistance would even produce a radical change in our institutions instead of altering the Draft and/or the Administration. If people would rather serve time in prison than in the military, then readjustment is inevitable, and this would vindicate the Protest Movement.

If the people can restrict the scope of government, as the Protest Movement seeks to do, where does the road lead? Limiting the Federal Hydra will allow more individual freedom, but does not the idea of popular sovereignty also allow a decentralization of the power structure? Will this lead to anarchy and disunion? The precedent of divided sovereignty is the Civil War. Is that the road we are treading down?

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REAGAN SPEAKS

Sacramento--Governor Ronald Reagan today praised University of California Regents for adopting a new policy resolution prohibiting the use of University campus facilities for unlawful purposes.

The Governor was informed of the precedent-setting policy declaration while attending the National Governors' Conference.

In a statement relayed through his office here, the Governor said:

"I would like to commend the Regents for their positive attempt towards solving a major problem at this great University. And I want to assure the people of California that this Administration will cooperate in every way to see that tax-supported institutions such as the University are not in any way used to further the illegal activities of any group or individual."

"This new statement by the Regents clearly sets forth--for the first time--a specific policy regarding the unlawful use of University facilities.

"I have been informed that the Regents of the University of California today unanimously adopted a resolution which will have a significant impact on the use of University facilities by those who advocate and plan wilful violations of the law.

NAT SCI FOUNDATION

The National Science Foundation has awarded a grant of $47,100 to the UC Regents on behalf of the University of California, Santa Cruz campus for a research project entitled "Statistical Thermodynamics of Steady State Systems."

Principal investigator is Dr. Terrell L. Hill. Professor of Chemistry, Stevenson College, UCSC.

Dr. Hill plans to establish a small theoretical research group at UCSC for this project. In addition to the principal investigator, the group will consist of two or three post-doctoral fellows and one to three graduate students in chemistry. One of the post-doctoral fellows is Adiel Litan, who received his B.Sc. (1960) and M.Sc. in Chemistry from the Technion, Haifa, Israel, and his Ph.D. in Chemistry from the Weizmann Institute, Israel (1966). Dr. Litan was a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Oregon last year (1966-67).

Amember of the National Academy of Sciences, Dr. Hill received his A.B. (1938) and Ph.D. (1942) degrees from the University of California, Berkeley. He has been an Instructor at Western Reserve University (1942-43) and the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory, UC, Berkeley (1943-45) and a Research Associate (1945-46) and Assistant Professor (1946-49) at the University of Rochester. From 1949-57, he was with the Naval Medical Research Institute and from 1957 until his UCSC appointment this year, was Professor of Chemistry at the University of Oregon (Eugene).

Dr. Hill was a Guggenheim Fellow at Yale (1952-53) and Sloan Fellow (1958-62). From 1948-51, he served as Associate Editor of the Journal of Chemical Physics. Among his publications are five books and 135 research papers.



HAPPENINGS

CALENDAR

Friday, Oct. 27
7:30 p.m. "Long Day's Journey Into Night," by Eugene O'Neill, presented by American Conservatory Theater, Stevenson Dining Room.

Saturday, Oct. 28
7:30 and 9:00 p.m. "The Knack," NS 3, Movie Guild. Admission 50¢.

8:30-12:30. Stevenson College Production Co. (Mass Hysteria) presents dance, light show. Stevenson Dining Room, admission $1.

Sunday, October 29
6:30 and 8:45 p.m. "The List of Adrian Messenger," NS 3, Films '67. Admission 50¢.

Monday, October 30
8:00 p.m. "Oedipus Rex," NS 3, Psychology Club.

Stevenson Fellows Dinner: Professor Joseph Tussman, head of experimental college at Berkeley.

Tuesday, Oct. 31
Crown College Dinner: "A Company of Three" presenting "The World of Carl Sandburg."

Wednesday, Nov. 1
7:30 p.m. Israeli Dancing, Cowell 131.

Saturday, Nov. 4.
7:30 p.m. Special bus for Don Cossack chorus group the Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium. Admission 20¢.

Sunday, Nov. 5
1:00-5:00 p.m. Campus Open House, "Back to the Ranch Day."

7:00 p.m. Concert by the Crown Chamber Players.

6:30 and 8:45 p.m. "Day of Wrath," NS 3, Films '67. Admission 50¢.

SOCCER

The newly formed UCSC Soccer Club won its first match 11-6 against Cabrillo College. UCSC led through the entire match and Cabrillo was seldom as close as three goals behind. The Club has games later this year with Merritt College, Woodside Priory and Cabrillo again.

SCULPTURE

HAND-Y WORK -- Outside of the sculpturing he does (now on exhibit at Cowell college terrace), the most expressive thing about 19-year old philosophy sophomore student, Peter Haan, are his hands, see left, which "sculpture" the air about him when he talks, as creatively as they do when he works on such wrought-iron "expressions" as seen below.

Haan has sold a number of his pieces to private collections, although he concedes that his most frequent sales have been to his parents (his father, Aubrey Haan, is dean of education at San Francisco state college; his mother, Norma Haan, a research psychologist with the Institute of Human Relations at the University of California, Berkeley.) Three of the eleven pieces now on exhibit have already been sold.

He began sculpturing in sandstone, wood, clay, styrofoam and stone at an early age as a student of Oakland's Arts & Craft school. He studied art for a year and a half at Berkeley high school and a half a year at UC, Berkeley, and will study metal sculpture and casting with Gurdon Woods, associated professor of art at UCSC next quarter.

INTRAMURALS

The Men's Intramural Sports program got underway Monday with the first touch football games of the 1967 season. Last years' "A" League champs, Animal Farm, now the Raggers, downed the 5th Discontinuity 36-0. The Crown Jewels ran over Stevenson House 5 20-0.

The Men's singles tennis ladder starts this Wednesday with many good players signed up.

The cross country meet will be held this Friday, October 20, at 2:00 p.m. The two mile course is located above the quarry off Hagar Drive.

MASS HYSTERIA

Mass Hysteria is coming! It's nothing to be afraid of as the words might imply. Mass Hysteria is nothing more than a new organization of Stevenson College students who want to provide entertainment for the benefit of U.C.S.C.

Actually Mass Hysteria is here, but it has been in hiding for the last few days as it has been preparing for its first extravaganza. On October 28th, a Saturday, Mass Hysteria will present live (and in person) for one performance only the Sun Burst, the Magic Listening Cap (formerly Flowers of Evil) and a light show done by Love Lites (known to many as Captain Outrageous or The Mad Dentist). The hysteria will begin anytime around 8:30 in the evening, and to be a part of the fun all one has to do is bring one dollar.

Mass Hysteria will not stop there. It is willing to cross frontiers previously uncrossed. It will continue to bring new and exciting events to U.C.S.C. All this will happen, and more, if people seem interested. So come one, (and to finish the rallying cry) come all, to the hysteria on the 28th, and show Mass Hysteria that it is loved. It could use the attention.



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VIET NAM LETTER FROM PAGE 1

home we'll have to buy off the blacks. I think the Poverty Program has been a demonstrable farce, partly because of the fools who run it. Well, I've met a lot of pretty reasonable men, Negroes, in the army. One from Detroit who is quite worried about his mother. I've even begun to like some soul-music. With my background of prejudice that's a pair step. I lapse into a reservoir of disgust when I think of returning home to the same bit of not being able to walk around freely for fear of snipers. I think the problem is dearly racial and I don't think welfare is any solution. The idea of everything now as a demand doesn't foster integration, which is a process of time. You can change laws but you cannot change history which seems to be what we are suffering from. History has inertia. To fight the inertia is only to commit violence. I hope that doesn't sound like a platitude. Because existentially every Negro is a man and as far as I'm concerned responsible for himself. If he is a looter I'd shoot him down. If he is a revolutionist I'd examine his program. But I don't think the Negroes themselves know what they want, ha! unless it's to be white. If that is so they are fools.

The 4th of the 7th continues to operate in the vicinity of the divisional base camp. The various companies are involved in road and bridge securing operations alternation with search and destroy missions. The area is relatively secure but from time to time VC are spotted by helicopters and units are dispatched to hunt them down. Unlike our previous area of operation, Au Khe is surrounded by friendly villages and hamlets. Therefore our targets must be positively identified before we can bring fire upon them.

BINH BOM

That is not the case in the Binh Bom valley which is an open fire zone. That means, in effect, that GIs are allowed to fire on anything that moves, other GIs excepted. It is a practical policy in war in which the first man to shoot is the winner. The fact that such a policy has unhappy results in the case of innocents such as 12 year old children is, of course, unfortunate.

The Binh Bom has long been a seat of Viet Cong activity. The VC in fact controlled the area until last February. At that time the 1st Cavalry Division in conjunction with ARVN (Army of the Republic of Viet Nom) began operation Perishing, one of the largest and longest operations of the war. Initial sweeps through the valley met with heavy viet Cong and NVA (North Vietnamese Army) resistance, even in the form of pitched battles. After several months the VC were driven into the surrounding hills. But they continued to get support from sympathizers living in the valley.

The solution at which the Allies arrived was to evacuate the valley. This project took another month. Supposedly the complete civilian population was taken out and relocated. Leaflets were dropped from airplanes telling how the valley was to become a battlefield thus encouraging the people to leave. The leaflets showed pictures of bombers and on the back side have an explanation in Vietnamese. But there is considerable doubt in my mind that the Montaignards who live in the hills could understand these leaflets. They certainly cannot read Anamese and I doubt that they are sophisticated enough to recognize a picture of a B-52 bomber or make the necessary connections.

HELL

But I have no doubt at all that the Montaignards did eventually make the connections. After the valley was evacuated, supposedly only the VC and their sympathizers remained. Then the hell was bombed out of Binh Bom. The valley and the hills are pocked with bomb craters of varying size. I myself have seen craters 30 yards in diameter and 20 feet deep.

In the meantime the Americans began constructing Landing Zones at various places on the rim of the valley. (These LZs are mainly artillery positions as jump-off points for helicopters assaults into the valley and as supply bases.

The Binh Bom must have once been a beautiful, productive valley, almost arcadian, with numerous small hamlets and one village of perhaps 5,000 persons. The valley flood was covered with rice paddies watered from the Binh Bom river, and coconut groves, pineapple patches, orangetrees, etc. But no longer. The place is gutted. The villages are sacked and burned, blown up and bullet-ridden. The orchards are dead, the river muddy, the rice paddies dry and brown or else stinking swamps - large areas in the hills have been sprayed by air with defoliaging agents. Yet the enemy still remains obscured because the leaves have dried on the trees. The trees are not denuded as anticipated. And to my biological sensitivities the defoliating attempt has been no less than an ecological travesty.

During the day the valley is deserted except for American troops. The VC come down at night to scavange for food We have ambushed numerous small parties of food gatherers carrying meager supplies of bad rice, bananas, pineapples, and coconuts. We have also ambushed similar Montaignard parties.

In every Montaignard village we go into we find many bunkers, burn the hootches, and kill whatever livestock we can find - pigs, chickens, waterbuffalo. The Montaignards are a plightful people. They are persecuted by the Anamese or true Vietnamese. ARUN soldiers have boasted to me of shooting down Montaignard children. The VC evidently exploit them in their war effort. But I have seen no evidence that the Montaignards have any political sympathies at all, desiring only to retire and live secretively from the war around them. They are a proud people but primitive. We find crossbows and crude bamboo animal traps in all the villages.

In a final effort to deny the Binh Bom valley to the VC as a source of supply, American engineer units are buldozing the valley floor, turning under villages and canals, cutting down the trees that remain. Before returning to Aukhe it was the job of the 4th of the 7th to secure the engineers. It might be added that during that operation we rounded up forty Montaignard children and women and old men who finally decided to surrender. Then was evidence that they had been mistreated by the VC.

The Binh Bom shall always stick in my mind as the desolation of war. It is a microcosm of the issues.

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